

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 4, as indicated:

--Filter 12 is coupled to a shaft 26 having a proximal end 28 and a distal end 30.

Filter 12 is coupled to shaft 26 proximate distal end 30. In addition, filter 12 may include a plurality of ribs or struts [[25]] that bridge filter 12 and shaft 26 and may help to support and/or collapse filter 12. Shaft 26 may be a guidewire and is preferably comprised of for example, metals including stainless steel, nickel alloys, and nickel-titanium alloys...--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 18, as indicated:

--Shaft 26, delivery sheath 14, and filter 12 may be disposed within a package that 39. ~~Package~~ 39 may be sterile and may be an appropriate configuration for delivery of the product to a clinician. Additionally, loading tool 10 may be disposed within a package 39. According to this embodiment, use of loading tool 10 may include the steps of removing shaft 26, delivery sheath 14, filter 12, and loading tool 10 from a package 39. Then filter 12 would be placed in sheath 14.--